

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/749,321

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 10-13, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 23, as follows:

1. (currently amended) A presence attribute information server comprising:

a processor;

an interface unit, coupled to the processor, including a network interface for receiving and transmitting user presence attribute information; and

a storage unit, coupled to the interface unit and the processor, including user presence attribute information and associated access authorization information organized and arranged as one or more entries in a data structure;

wherein said access authorization entries are each associated with corresponding user presence attribute information entries, each user presence attribute information entry having a presence attribute value field, corresponding to one or more types of presence attributes, and each access authorization information entry having a user field identifying one or more users and one or more access condition entries, wherein the access condition entries define the conditions when the corresponding user presence attribute information is available to the corresponding identified one or more users.

2. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more access condition entries includes a predetermined period of time to be matched.

3. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 2 wherein the predetermined period of time includes a time of day.

4. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 2 wherein the predetermined period of time includes a day of the week.

5. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 2 wherein a predetermined period of time includes a point in time identifying the beginning of the

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predetermined period and a point in time identifying the end of the predetermined period.

6. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 1 wherein at least one of the one or more access condition entries includes a proximity relative to a predetermined location.

7. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 6 wherein the predetermined location includes a specific place.

8. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 6 wherein the predetermined location is the present position of at least one of another item or person.

9. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 6 wherein the proximity corresponds to a predetermined distance.

10. (currently amended) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 6 wherein the location is relative to the at least one of item or person associated with the user presence attribute information.

11. (currently amended) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 6 wherein the location is relative to the user requesting the user presence attribute information.

12. (currently amended) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 1 wherein the access condition entries include a flag which, when an access condition is met, identifies whether access to the associated user presence attribute information is authorized or precluded.

13. (currently amended) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 1 further comprising an access validation unit, coupled to the interface unit and the storage unit, the access validation unit being adapted for

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receiving a request for user presence attribute information,
receiving one or more of status information of the user requesting the information, the status information of the at least one of item or person associated with the user presence attribute information, and the current time and date,
comparing the same to the one or more corresponding access authorization entries, and
authorizing access to the presence information, if the appropriate access conditions have been met.

14. (original) A presence attribute information server in accordance with claim 13 wherein the access validation unit includes a set of prestored instructions for execution by the processor.

15. (currently amended) A presence attribute information manager application comprising:

a processor;

an interface unit, coupled to the processor, including a data input device for receiving user presence attribute information from the user and a network interface for transmitting user presence attribute information;

a storage unit, coupled to the interface unit and the processor, including user presence attribute information and associated access authorization information organized and arranged as one or more entries in a data structure;

wherein said access authorization entries are each associated with corresponding user presence attribute information entries, each user presence attribute information entry having a presence attribute value field, corresponding to one or more types of presence attributes, and each access authorization information entry having a user field identifying one or more users and one or more access condition entries, wherein the access condition entries define the conditions when the corresponding user presence attribute information is available to the corresponding identified users.

16. (currently amended) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 15 wherein said interface unit is further adapted for receiving access conditions associated with one or more users, which are used to formulate access authorization information entries.

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17. (original) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 15 wherein said interface unit further includes a data output device for presenting conditions associated with authorizing access in an iconic format.

18. (currently amended) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 17 wherein said data input device is further adapted for modifying the conditions being presented by the data output device associated with authorizing access to user presence attribute information associated with one or more users.

19. (currently amended) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 15 further comprising a broadcast unit, coupled to the interface unit and the storage unit, the broadcast unit being adapted to transmit updated user presence attribute information to at least one of a presence attribute information server and subscribed users, that are currently authorized to receive updates, when the user presence attribute information changes.

20. (original) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 19 wherein the broadcast unit includes a set of prestored instructions for execution by the processor.

21. (original) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 15 wherein the presence attribute information manager application is incorporated as part of a portable electronic device.

22. (original) A presence attribute information manager application in accordance with claim 21 wherein the portable electronic device is a wireless radio frequency telephone.

23. (currently amended) A method for managing the access to user presence attribute information comprising:

receiving a request for user presence attribute information;

identifying the user requesting the user presence attribute information;

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determining whether the user requesting the information is authorized to have access to the requested user presence attribute information including

- receiving any conditions relative to the requesting user associated with receiving access to the information, and
- determining whether the received conditions associated with receiving access have been met;

wherein, if the user has met the conditions associated with receiving access, then forwarding the user presence attribute information to the requesting user.